



DDS Waiver Services

Siobhan C. Morgan , M.A.
Director of Waiver Services
Department of Developmental Services
Voice 860-418-8723
Siobhan.Morgan@ct.gov

Waivers are granted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) under Section 1915 (c) of the Social Security Act. DDS operates five waivers:

Three waivers for Individuals with Intellectual disability

- ☐ Comprehensive Support Waiver, (COMP)
- ☐ Individual and Family Support Waiver (IFS),
- ☐ Employment and Supports Waiver (EDS)

Two waivers for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder

- ☐ Home and Community Supports Waiver for Persons with Autism (ASD)
- ☐ Early Childhood Autism Waiver (ECW)

All DDS waivers further set specific dollar limits of services and supports that can be offered based on an individual's assessed level of support need. The requirements for the administration of the waivers are established in the approved HCBS Waiver applications. CMS negotiates the content of the application with the state. Once approved, the waiver specifies the following:

- The target population and related eligibility criteria;
- Lists the supports to be provided, including the service definition, Provider requirements, direct service employee competencies, and expected utilization of each service;
- Estimates the number of people to be supported each year with associated costs, and specifies maximum number of individuals who can be enrolled in each year

The Comprehensive Supports Waiver (COMP)

Renewed 10/1/2013

The Comprehensive Supports waiver renewed was approved effective October 1, 2013 for a period of five years. It also permits self-direction for the majority of services and supports, but is not designated as an *Independence* Plus waiver. This waiver authorizes DDS to provide direct services and supports for people who live in licensed settings, who live in their own or their family home and require a level of support not available under the IFS waiver, usually due to significant behavioral, medical and/or physical support needs and/or the absence of available natural supports.

This waiver will serve 5600 people by the end of the five years

Waiver resource cap is based on the ICF/IID rate.

Services and Supports are organized in three categories:

Residential Supports – Personal Support, Adult Companion, Individualized Home Supports, Residential Habilitation (CLA and CCH), Assisted Living, Healthcare Coordination, Live-In Caregiver, Continuous Residential Supports(CRS), Shared Living, Personal Emergency Response Systems and Respite

Day/Vocational Supports – Group Day, Supported Employment, Adult Day Health, and Individualized Day Supports

Ancillary Supports – Clinical Behavioral Supports, Nutrition, Interpreter, Parenting Supports, Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies, and non-medical Transportation; Peer Support; Assistive Technology; Training and Counseling for unpaid caregiver and,

Additional support services- including Home and Vehicle Modifications, and Independent Support Broker.

The Individual and Family Support Waiver (IFS)

Renewed 2/1/2013

The IFS waiver is also designated as an *Independence Plus* Waiver by CMS because it provides the authority for individuals to self-direct a number of services and supports to the extent desired. This waiver was renewed effective February 1, 2013 for a period of five years. It is authorized to provide direct services and supports to people who live in their own or their family home. Services and supports are organized in four categories:

Home and Community Supports – Personal Support, Adult Companion, Individualized Home Supports, Community Companion Home(CCH), Continuous Residential Supports(CRS), Shared Living Personal Emergency Response Systems, Healthcare Coordination, Live-In Caregiver and Respite;

Day/Vocational Supports – Group Day, Adult Day Health, Individualized Day Supports, and Supported Employment;

Ancillary Supports –Clinical Behavioral Supports, Nutrition, Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies, Interpreter Services, Parenting Supports and non-medical Transportation; Peer Support; Assistive Technology; Training and Counseling for unpaid caregiver and,

Additional support services- including Home and Vehicle Modifications, Family Training, and Independent Support Broker.

This waiver will serve 4500 people by the end of the five years.

Waiver resource cap is \$59,000.

Employment and Day Supports Waiver (EDS)

Renewal due 3/31/2016- New Application has been submitted to CMS for renewal 4/1/2016.

The Employment and Day Supports waiver was approved by CMS to begin April 1, 2011 for a period of five years. This waiver is designed to support individuals who live with family or in their own homes and have a strong natural support system. This includes children under the age of 21 with complex medical needs who would otherwise require institutional placement and individuals over the age of 18 who require career development, supported employment or community based day supports, respite, and/or behavioral supports to remain in their own or their family home.

This waiver will serve 2150 people by the end of the five years (2021).

The funding cap for this waiver is \$28,000 annually.

The following services are available in this waiver:

- ☐ Adult Day Health
- ☐ Community Based Day Support Options
- ☐ Respite
- ☐ Supported Employment
- ☐ Independent Support Broker
- ☐ Behavioral Support Services
- ☐ Individual Goods and Services—only available to individuals/families who hire their staff directly
- ☐ Individualized Day Support
- ☐ Interpreter
- ☐ Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies
- ☐ Non-Medical Transportation
- ☐ Peer Support
- ☐ Assistive Technology

Home and Community Supports Waiver for Persons with Autism

Approved 1/1/2013

Target Population :

Adults who are currently receiving services through the DDS Autism Division (previously the Autism Pilot Program).

Children and young adults who received services previously through DCF's Voluntary Services Program (VSP) who meet DDS Autism Division eligibility criteria. (DCF VSP is for children with behavioral health needs).

As openings in the waiver become available, additional participants will be allocated funding within the limits of the waiver and available appropriations. Eligible participants must be at least three years of age with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder who live in a family or caregiver's home or one's own home. DDS's Level of Need (LON) Assessment tool will be used in combination with the SIB-R or other appropriate assessment tools to determine the assignment of resources as they become available.

Eligibility:

A primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as determined by a diagnostic evaluation as described on the DDS Autism Division webpage

Substantial functional limitations in two or more of the following areas of major life activity: a) self-care, b) understanding and use of language, c) learning, d) mobility, e) self-direction, f) capacity for independent living

IQ= 70 or higher:

The Division of Autism Services provides services to individuals with ASD **who do not have intellectual disability**.

Waiver Details:

- ☐ Capped at \$60,000 annually per participant
- ☐ Maximum total number of individuals to be enrolled in the waiver each year: 100 in year 1; 115 in year 2; 122 in year 3; 129 in year 4; 136 in year 5.

Services and Supports:

Community Companion Homes (CCH); Live-in Companion; Respite; Assistive Technology; Clinical Behavioral Supports; Community Mentor; Individual Goods and Services; Interpreter; Job Coaching; Life Skills Coach; Non-Medical Transportation; Personal Emergency Response System; Social Skills Group; Specialized Driving Assessment.

Early Childhood Autism Waiver

Approved 2/1/2014

Target Population:

This waiver is designed to serve young children aged three and four years-old who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and who have significant deficits in adaptive behaviors as well as severe maladaptive behaviors. Supports are designed to improve skills in receptive and expressive communication, social interaction and activities of daily living, while reducing the inappropriate or problematic behaviors often associated with autism, using training techniques based on applied behavioral analysis.

Eligibility:

As part of the eligibility criteria for this waiver children must demonstrate a significant delay in adaptive skills as well as severe maladaptive behaviors. Because of this, all of the participants have extensive needs and would be determined to need the highest level of support in any level of need assessment. Therefore, funding levels will not be decided based on a certain level of need. All participants will be funded at the same level as they all meet the threshold for comprehensive needs.

Waiver Details:

- ☐ Capped at \$30,000 annually per participant
- ☐ Maximum total number of individuals to be enrolled in the waiver each year: Capped at 30 children

Services and Supports:

Clinical Behavioral Supports;
Life Skills Coach;